

Senator Horgan's amendment to LB 387? Senator Coordsen.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Madam President. A question of Senator Horgan, please.

SENATOR HORGAN: Yes.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Senator Horgan.

SENATOR HORGAN: You bet.

SENATOR COORDSEN: I see in the fiscal note that it calls for expenditures of \$44,756 in '93-94, and \$32,256 in '94-95, and I would assume those to be in the years beyond. Does the amendment change that in any way?

SENATOR HORGAN: Senator, it will adjust that because we're not requiring anything until 1994, so there should not be any fiscal impact in '93-94, not until you get to '94-95, there might be a small fiscal impact. Then beginning in '95-96 you would probably be in the 30,000 dollar range probably as a fiscal impact. Those...and some of those costs will not be ongoing because some of those are computer costs and software costs and printing and postage and informational pieces. There will be a small fiscal impact, I think, the first year, '94, a little bit larger as we start requiring the hospitals to do it in '95. After that, it ought to drop down fairly significantly.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Well, thank you. Thank you, Senator Horgan. And one further question. Going back to your explanation of the bill, this is to the benefit of the insurance industry?

SENATOR HORGAN: Well, it's not necessarily to the benefit of the insurance industry. Some hospitals, all the hospitals in Lincoln, for instance, currently do E coding on their forms. About 20 percent or more of the hospitals across the State of Nebraska currently E code their forms. Insurance companies are increasingly asking for E codes so that they can track for reading purposes and other reasons if there are clusters of certain types of injuries occurring in certain parts of the state or a part of the country. Increasingly, insurance companies, as they try to manage their cost, they're going to be looking for information that's going to provide them assistance in knowing that, you know, for some reason perhaps in Lancaster County there's a lot of head injuries dealing with home